

Hi my name is Jack Quirion, and I support House Bill 6517.

My first piece of testimony in support of dyslexia legislation was in 2014. At that time I was 10 years old and I had just started going to a new school out of State to learn how to read. I didn't know that I would be advocating for support, 7 years later.

I did not learn how to read because of my dyslexia at my public school and after 6 years of education I left to go to a school where teachers had the tools to teach me how to read. I want to emphasize that my public school didn't teach me - NOT that I couldn't learn. I thought at the time it was a special super power to teach kids with dyslexia. I now know every teacher can have these skills, if they are taught the science of reading.

How different would my life have been if I had not gotten the appropriate interventions that I needed. Where would I be today?

Would I be a reader?

Would I be on the Honor Roll?

Would I be graduating from High School this year?

Would I be going to College?

Would I realize my dream to play D1 Soccer?

Would I be happy?

I am able to say YES to all of the above because I had the opportunity to learn how to read. I had teachers who knew how to teach me. I had the opportunity of being in a school that understood who I was as a learner and helped me succeed.

I am one of the lucky ones!

Do not let this opportunity go by to support teachers so they can help students with dyslexia get appropriate interventions.

You can save lives by making sure students with dyslexia get what they need to learn how to read. I can tell you that learning how to read definitely saved my life and I hope by continuing to advocate I can help others.